



P R E S S R E L E A S E

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Subject: **Montana Wheat and Barley Committee Hosts Japanese Barley Buyers**

Nine high-ranking officials with Japanese national feed barley and processing firms, escorted by the U.S. Grains Council, will visit Montana August 1-3, 2006.

The Montana Wheat and Barley Committee will host the buyers and coordinate their Montana itinerary. The group will receive extensive briefings by producers and Montana State University researchers at the Wheat and Barley Committee office in Great Falls, tour a feedlot in Chouteau, visit the 110-car shuttle train loading facility at Collins and visit farms in the Dutton area. There also will be opportunities for the Japanese visitors to meet with U.S. grain industry representatives.

"The main objective for the team is to expand U.S. feed barley sales under Japan's Simultaneous Buy-Sell program, the method used to import grain and sell it to end-users," explains Kim Falcon, Executive Vice President of the Wheat and Barley Committee. "This trip will introduce Japanese barley importers to Montana barley varieties and updated research on barley. This is a great opportunity to exchange information about quality and production."

The Montana Wheat and Barley Committee, with producer check-off dollars and the help of the national foreign market development organization, the U.S. Grains Council, works to establish important business relationships with foreign buyers. These trade trips and other trade servicing activities help to sell Montana grains.